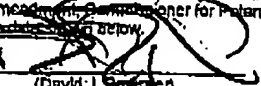


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the telephone below, or deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 4/15/05 Signature:   
(David J. Poffen)

Docket No.: 102323-0061  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Bryan D. Marietta et al.

Application No.: 09/758,949

Confirmation No.: 9640

Filed: January 11, 2001

Art Unit: 2661

For: DIGITAL DATA SYSTEM WITH LINK  
LEVEL MESSAGE FLOW CONTROL

Examiner: B. D. Nguyen  
Telefax No.: 703-872-9306

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Please charge the fees associated with the indicated claim amendments to Deposit Order Account 14 1449.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.